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## IN THE UNDIED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Koichi Ono

Serial No.

10/684,174

Filed

October 9, 2003

TC/A.U.

Confirmation No:

Examiner

03-637

Docket No.
Customer No.

34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

## Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

(1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2000-121547 (published on April 28, 2000). The abstract is attached hereto.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the

present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Koichi Ono

Gregory P. LaPointe

Attorney for Applicant

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Date: January 19, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on January 19,

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark hee if English language Translation is attached.